

## **Rule 15.5B Preplacement Home Study and Report; Investigation.**

### **1. Agency Intermediary.**

- a. When the intermediary is an agency licensed by the Department of Public Welfare of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, the agency shall conduct a home study and file a preplacement report as required by 23 Pa.C.S. §2530.
- b. After the Report of Intention to Adopt has been filed, the agency shall conduct three supervisory post-placement visits and file a report of its investigation as required by 23 Pa.C.S. §2535. The report of investigation may be incorporated into the report of intermediary.

### **2. Non-Agency Intermediary or No Intermediary.**

- a. Prior to the placement of a child for adoption, a non-agency intermediary or the person(s) proposing to adopt if there is no intermediary shall file with the clerk a request for a pre-placement home study. A person or agency designated by the Court shall conduct the home study and file the pre-placement report required by 23 Pa.C.S. §2530.
- b. After the report of Intention to Adopt has been filed, the same person or agency shall conduct three supervisory post-placement visits and file a report of its investigation as required by 23 Pa.C.S. §2535. The report of investigation may be incorporated into the report of the intermediary.
- c. The persons or agency designated by the Court to perform the services required in 3(a) and (b) shall be paid the reasonable cost of such services by the proposed adopting parent(s). The reasonable cost shall be fixed by the Court. A check payable to the designated person or agency in the amount fixed shall be attached to the Request for Preplacement Home Study.
- d. Bucks County Children and Youth Social Services Agency is designated to perform the home studies and supervisory visits required in 3a. and b. In appropriate cases, and upon petition to the Court, another person or agency may be approved to perform the duties required in 3a. and b., and payment for those services shall be paid by the proposed adopting parent(s) directly to the person or agency performing the services.